

Meeting:	JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
Date:	9th June 2023
From:	Joint Officer Steering Group

UPDATE ON MINERAL AND WASTE MATTERS

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report informs the Committee of the latest position with regard to mineral and waste matters which affect both City and County Councils

2. **MINERAL PLANNING**

- 2.1 The Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan was adopted in March 2021. A statutory review of the Plan will take place in 2026 to determine if all or part of it requires updating.
- 2.2 The City and County Councils have recently received a Scoping Request to inform preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment in support of a re-submission of a planning application for mineral extraction at Barton in Fabis. This application will cross the administrative boundaries of both Councils and proposes to extract 2.05 MT of sand and gravel within Nottinghamshire and 0.5 MT within the administrative area of Nottingham City. The Nottinghamshire element is an allocated site within the Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan.

3. **WASTE PLANNING**

Joint Waste Plan – progress to date

- 3.1 The County and City Councils are preparing a single joint Waste Local Plan to replace the Waste Core Strategy adopted by both Councils in December 2013. An initial consultation on the new Local Plan, including a 'Call for Sites' was completed in May 2020 .
- 3.2 The Waste Local Plan is a statutory document that all Waste Planning Authorities must prepare. It sets out policies against which all development proposals involving recycling and waste processing are assessed and determined by the County Council.
- 3.3 The overall aim of the Plan is to ensure that sufficient range of sites are provided to meet expected future demand for recycling and waste management in the most sustainable way by supporting greater levels of re-use and recycling of material, seeking to minimise landfill and to safeguard existing waste management sites from being unnecessarily lost or impacted by other development.

- 3.4 The vision and strategic policies of the Waste Local Plan therefore help support the environmental and sustainability objectives of each Council. Waste processing and recycling is an economic sector which helps avoid having to dispose of waste to landfill. Most former quarries in Nottinghamshire which historically accepted landfill waste are now full. Whilst waste is a commercial product, it is important to minimise material shipped long distances outside Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, often adding to heavy goods vehicle movements and have planning policies which support accommodating future facilities locally wherever possible.
- 3.5 The Plan and its supporting Waste Needs Assessment seeks to accommodate expected demand for waste following the “hierarchy” of waste which seeks to ensure that waste is firstly prevented, then repaired/re-used, then the material recycled, then used to enable recovery (eg energy recovery) with disposal being the last resort.



- 3.2 The Draft Waste Plan was approved by Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City Council in January 2022. The Draft Waste Local Plan was consulted on between the 7th February and 4th April 2022.
- 3.3 Officers from both Councils have completed analysing the representations received on the Draft Waste Local Plan , amending the Plan policies where needed and then carrying out a sustainability appraisal to examine their contribution to a series of sustainability objectives. AECOM have recently completed an update to the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Needs Assessment by reference to the latest data on waste flows and existing capacity.

Engagement with members

- 3.4 In addition to regular reporting to this Committee, a Joint Councillor Working Group involving Councillors from both Councils took place on Tuesday 28th March to consider the revised policies for the Plan.
- 3.5 Officers presented to the Working Group on the key issues raised from the consultation on the Draft Plan and outlined how these were being addressed

within the Pre-Submission Draft Version, with drafts of the amended policies and vision shared. An update was also given on the new data and changes made to the Waste Needs Assessment prepared by AECOM.

- 3.6 Councillors raised concerns about the percentage reduction in the higher recycling scenario for Commercial and Industrial Waste in the Waste Needs Assessment. Officers have since worked with the consultants AECOM to reconsider the higher recycling scenario and have revised this back to the percent level included within the Draft Plan Waste Needs Assessment.

Finalisation of the Pre-Submission Draft Waste Local Plan and Next Steps

- 3.7 Officers have now finalised the Pre-Submission Draft Plan and a number of background papers are being completed which will support the Plan when published. These include the:
- a. Waste Needs Assessment- Prepared by AECOM
 - b. Sustainability Appraisal
 - c. Equalities Impact Assessment
 - d. Health Impact Assessment
 - e. Habitats Regulation Assessment.

The Plan is programmed to be reported to the County Council Cabinet on July 20th and to the Executive Board of Nottingham City Council on July 18th for approval to publish the Plan for a statutory period to allow for formal representations.

- 3.8 Officers will present further details about the content of the Plan and the changes made following the Draft Plan stage to the meeting.
- 3.9 Subject to approval, the Plan will be published for formal consultation following the summer holiday period in late August or early September 2023, inviting comments on the Plan's soundness (i.e., is the Plan justified, effective, compliant with national planning policy and meets the requirements of the relevant regulations). This will be an online consultation, but a final formal stage with respondents required to complete specified questions as required under the Local Plan Regulations.
- 3.10 Subject to officers' opinion that the Plan is still sound, the Pre-Submission Plan will then be taken to Council, at both County and City, to gain approval to submit the plan and representations made to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 3.11 Following this, the Plan will go through independent examination to test the soundness of the Plan. Once the Plan is found to be sound, subject to any modifications, the Plan can be then adopted by both Councils. It is hoped that the Plan will be adopted in the latter half of 2024.

4. OTHER MATTERS

- 4.1 Councillors have continued to express interest in viewing a waste management facility Officers will explore dates for a future visit to an energy from waste operation and a private sector recycling company once work on the Waste Local Plan allows.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Joint Committee note the progress on the production of the Waste Local Plan.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 6.1 None.

Contact Officers

Stephen Pointer,
Team Manager Planning Policy,
Nottinghamshire County Council
Tel 0115 993 9388
Email: stephen.pointer@nottscc.gov.uk

Matt Gregory,
Head of Planning Strategy and Geographic Information.
Nottingham City Council
Tel: 0115 876 3974
Email: matt.gregory@nottinghamcity.gov.uk